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FBIS extended its monitoring of foreign television, filling coverage gaps in both wided its monitoring of foreign television, filling coverage as well as the Europe and East Asia. Regular coverage of West German cooperates with which portion of French television was begun in 1982. (FBIS Service in coverage Deutsche Welle Monitoring Service and BBC Monitoring Service in coverage these stations.) Coverage of Philippines television-namely Quezon City these stations.) Coverage of Philippines television-persistent gap in German also added, thereby partially closing a persistent gap in German coverage of that nation.

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In 1982 FBIS incleased its coverage of the foreign media in response to events and as a resut of the availability of new sources. During the Falkland and Lebanese Crses, FBIS components expanded coverage to meet the needs of high-level Community consumers, i.a., providing alerts to the White House Situation Roomand special services to the U.S. special envoy in the Middle East. Souther African radio and press coverage improved with the May opening of a buleau in Mbabane, Swaziland. The capability to cover Russian and Chinese developments was increased: Several linguists were added both at Headquarter and overseas which allowed FBIS to expand monitoring of the USSR vernacular press in the republics, exploit some 170 additional Chinese SeT journals, provide regular coverage of principal Chinese military publications, and process large amounts of information from Soviet satellite transmissions.

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FBIS coverage of science and technology and technology transfer was expanded in 1982 by publishing a new JPRS serial report on USSR science and technology policy, by adding Chinese language positions to exploit the vastly increased Chinese publications on S&T, by significantly increasing the JPRS translation capability in Japanese S&T, and by exploring ways to utilize translation resources in Japan. These efforts have been well received by State Department, the Department of Energy, and the Department of Commerce as well as the Intelligence Community-wide committee on technology transfer, which has stated that "FBIS is a gold mine on technology transfer."

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FBIS made progress in its 4-year project to automate its communication center, wire service, and Daily Report operations. This new system, which will ensure more efficient, reliable processing and dissemination of the foreign media information collected by FBIS overseas, is seen as the first step toward eventual total automation of its Headquarters and field collection and processing activities.

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Look Toward the Future

In an effort to carry out more effectively its assigned task of exploiting foreign source media as a service of common concern, FBIS' principal goal over the next six years will be to modernize its operating methods which have remained essentially unchanged since World War II. A worldwide media explosion, technological changes in the media field, and increased requirements have dictated a major change in the way in which FBIS receives, transmits, processes, stores, and retrieves foreign intelligence information derived from media sources. This goal includes the establishment of a flexible, timely collection capability which will enable FBIS to monitor media satellites worldwide, to develop a modern information transmission system linking all FBIS bureaus and headquarters, and to automate field bureau editing. Also included is the upgrading of the capability to exploit publications by establishing overseas publication monitoring units and automating the JPRS system. Finally FBIS seeks to improve the effectiveness of media analysis by developing an automated data base.

To achieve its modernization goal, FBIS will need to recruit and retain skilled professionals such as engineers, linguists, specialized media analysts, and editors. Competition from the private sector for skilled professionals, a need for qualified linguists with technical subject knowledge, and expensive, unattractive overseas living have made the search for qualified personnel a challenge. This challenge can or is being met by incentive pay both for hard-to-find skills and for overseas assignments and by training or retaining employees in needed languages or technical subjects.

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